REMARKS

In the Final Action, claims 14 and 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, appropriate revisions to those claims have been made. Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,101,198 (Koenig) or Koenig in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,415,348 (Mergard et al.) or U.S. Patent No. 6,058,111 (Beyda et al.) or U.S. Patent No. 5,063,592 (Cannella et al.). Claims 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,483,556 (Pillan et al.) or Pillan in view of Mergard.

With respect to claims 1-20, Applicants respectfully submit these claims are allowable in view of Koenig and in any reasonable combination of Koenig with any of the other cited references. The present invention provides a unique data highway interface which allows for efficient communication by a plurality of processors and a high data rate interface. Koenig does not disclose interfacing a plurality of processors at all, let alone the unique configuration of the processors and the parallel data highways as recited in the claims. Accordingly, these claims are patentable in view of Koenig and the other references.

With respect to claims 21-23, these claims are patentable over Pillan based on the following. Pillan discloses taking a HDLC encoded field stripping off various information, such as the flag fields. The resulting stripped field is run through a
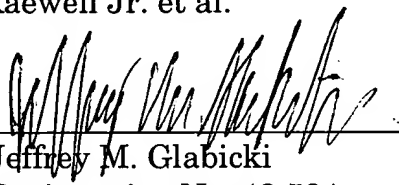
form of compression algorithm and then framing information is added prior to transmission. Apparently, the purpose of Pillan is to take HDLC encoded data and transmit it through a reduced data rate type interface, by the use of compression. This is clearly shown in Figure 4 where the original HDLC encoded data is compressed down to a much smaller bandwidth signal. Accordingly, the compression and framing algorithms of Pillan can not be HDLC encoding or the size of the original data field would be the same, if not larger than the original HDLC encoded data after the address control and flag information was added. Accordingly, the double HDLC encoding of the present claims would be totally inconsistent with the teachings of Pillan, which uses a preferred second encoding of an OSI reference model.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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